

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SECURITY

[PASS, FAIL]: This application has [not] successfully completed the V&V Secure Code Review Validation Process.

Secure Code Review Validation Report

[Application Name] [Application Version]

Application-ID: [#####-####-####-####-#####]

Filename: VA SwA Code Validation [Application Name]
[Application Version] [Date] [PASS, FAIL].pdf

MONTH DAY, YEAR

VA



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**
Office of Information
and Technology
*Software Assurance
Program Office*

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1 Secure Code Review Validation Report Introduction

This document contains the results of the validation by the VA Software Assurance Program Office of a secure code review of [application name] performed by the developer.

This document contains the following additional sections:

Section 2. Secure Code Review Validation Results

This section summarizes the results of the validation of the developer secure code review.

Section 3. Secure Code Review Validation Process Details

This section describes how the validation of the developer secure code review was performed.

Section 4. Secure Design Review Validation Findings and Recommendations

This section provides residual secure code review validation findings that should have already been fixed prior to the validation. Recommendations are also provided.

Section 5. Secure Design Review Validation Report Conclusion

This section provides additional recommendations to build security in during development.

1.1 Application Information

The version of [application name] for which static analysis tool scan results were provided was [application version]. The following was provided by the developer for review:

1. Completed V&V Secure Code Review Validation Request Form
2. [file name] - HPE Fortify Static Code Analyzer (SCA) static analysis tool scan result file
3. [file name] - HPE Fortify SCA static analysis tool custom rule file
4. [upload location] - [application name] [application version] source code

2 Secure Code Review Validation Results

This document contains the results of a Verification and Validation (V&V) review, conducted by the VA Software Assurance Program Office, of developer-provided HPE Fortify SCA static analysis tool scan result files, and of any provided custom scan tool custom rule files, as well as the [application name] [application version] source code. Goals of performing secure code reviews at the VA include ensuring that risk-based activities in applications are performed in a secure manner. Goals of V&V secure code review validations include ensuring that secure code reviews performed by VA software developers have been done correctly and consistently.

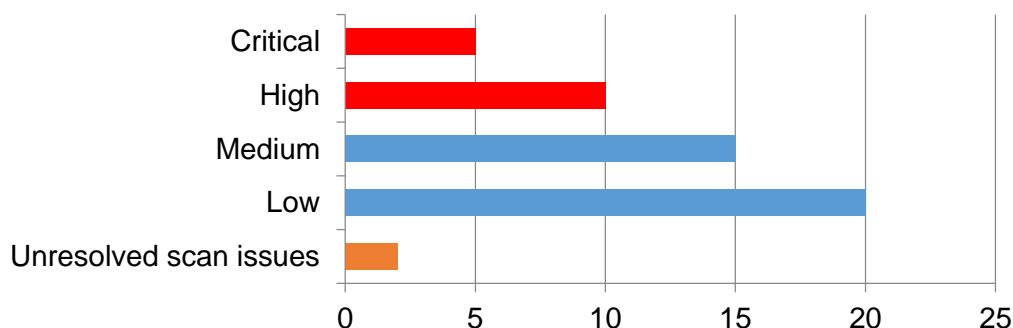
The V&V secure code review validation conducted by the VA Software Assurance Program Office covered provided materials to ensure that:

1. Application information in secure code review validation request packages is accurate and complete, and
2. Application scan results demonstrate that VA standards have been met , and
3. Application scan results demonstrate that mitigations must have been made for issues reported by the HPE Fortify SCA static analysis tool, and
4. There are justifications provided for cases where HPE Fortify SCA static analysis tool rules are disabled, or scan results are marked as false positives.

For more information about the validation process, see [Section 3](#).

The V&V secure code review validation conducted by the VA Software Assurance Program Office identified a total of [count] residual vulnerabilities that were considered Critical in severity. There were a total of [count] residual High severity vulnerabilities. There were a total of [count] residual Medium severity vulnerabilities. There were a total of [count] residual Low severity vulnerabilities. There were a total of [count] unresolved scan issues.

Figure 1. Summary of Residual Vulnerabilities & Unresolved Scan Issues



For more information about residual vulnerabilities and unresolved scan issues that were identified during the secure code review validation, see [Section 4](#).

3 Secure Code Review Validation Process Details

The secure code review validation was performed overall as follows:

Step 1. Perform initial planning

The first step that was performed was to perform initial planning. This included developing a strategy for performing the review and identifying considerations that should be taken into account during the review, such as any HPE Fortify SCA static analysis tool custom rule files provided by the developer.

Step 2. Review source code

The next step is to perform the review. A combination of using HPE Fortify SCA to review scan result files and manual analysis was used. The scan results were reviewed to ensure that best practices for performing secure code review have been followed, and that VA standards have been met, as noted in the previous section.

Step 3. Write report

The last step in the secure code review validation process is to write up the report, after working with the VA application developer to resolve any issues identified during review.

3.1 Validation Strategy

The secure code review validation was performed by reviewing HPE Fortify SCA static analysis tool scan result files and any provided HPE Fortify SCA static analysis tool custom rule files. The provided source code was reviewed as need to support analysis of the provided scan result and custom rule files. The secure code review validation included at a minimum the following checks:

Review developer-provided scan file for matching source code

This validation check consists of ensuring that the source code matches the uploaded static analysis tool scan result files. While during the comparison there may be some differences such as build files, source code files should not contain any differences.

Review developer-provided scan file for scanning issues

This validation check consists of reviewing static analysis tool scan result file for any anomalies in the scan. When running the scan there may have been issues reported by the static analysis tool that affected the quality or completeness of the scan that may have been overlooked.

Review developer-provided scan file for residual findings

This validation check consists of ensuring that there are no Critical or High findings in the uploaded static analysis tool scan result file (HPE Fortify SCA

“.fpr” extension file) using Fortify Audit Workbench, after first configuring it to use any provided custom rule files.

Review developer-provided scan file for suppression of issues

This validation check consists of reviewing static analysis tool scan result files to ensure that issues reported by HPE Fortify SCA have not been suppressed, as opposed to adding comments and developing custom rules as might be appropriate.

Review developer-provided custom rule files, if provided

This validation check consists of reviewing any provided static analysis tool custom rule files. Analysis includes examining custom rule files e.g. to ensure that there are no rules to disable built-in Fortify rules, unless those custom rules include documentation justifying their use.

Perform additional supporting analysis, as needed

This validation check consists of performing additional supporting analysis for items that may have been identified during the course of the validation for a particular application. For example, findings in the scan result files have been marked as N/A, checks would be performed to ensure there is some documented justification, and to verify the soundness of the justification. Alternately for example, analysis may be performed to determine the appropriateness of exclusions.

3.2 Tools Used for Validation

The VA Software Assurance Program Office uses the same static analysis tool (HPE Fortify SCA) as VA application developers. The same static analysis tool is used in order to promote confidence in the outcome of the secure code review validation if the tool is in fact being used during development. HPE Fortify SCA version [version] was used to review provided static analysis tool scan result and custom rule files. The Audit Workbench tool which is part of HPE Fortify SCA was used to facilitate examining static analysis tool scan result files. Similarly, the Custom Rules Editor tool which is also part of HPE Fortify SCA was used to facilitate examining custom rule files.

3.3 Categorization of Findings

The findings that resulted from performing the secure code review validation are grouped in [Section 4](#) of this report by severity and type of vulnerability. Findings were rated according to severities reported by the HPE Fortify SCA tool, and/or at the discretion of the VA Software Assurance Program Office as follows:

Findings that are Critical in severity

Vulnerabilities in source code that must be fixed immediately, for example exposed passwords or Personally-Identifiable Information (PII).

Findings that are High in severity

Vulnerabilities in source code that allow an attacker immediate access into a machine, allow super user access, or bypass a firewall.

Findings that are Medium in severity

Vulnerabilities in source code that provide information that have a high potential of giving access to an intruder.

Findings that are Low in severity

Vulnerabilities in source code that provide information that potentially could lead to compromise.

Findings that are unresolved scan issues

This finding categorization is reserved for issues having to do with how the scan was conducted, for example, source code not matching the upload static analysis tool scan result files.

Additional findings

This finding categorization is reserved for any additional concerns identified by the VA Software Assurance Program Office review that do not correspond to the categories above. For example, new issues may be identified during the course of the validation while reviewing supporting documentation.

4 Secure Code Review Validation Findings and Recommendations

4.1 Residual Critical Findings ([#] Total)

Based on the information provided by the developer, it does not appear that vulnerabilities identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were Critical in severity were left unmitigated.

Or,

The vulnerabilities below were identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were Critical in severity were left unmitigated and are still being reported by HPE Fortify SCA. It is estimated that it will take approximately [xx] hours to address the following issues.

CWE-ID	CWE-Title	Number of Instances	Notes

Or,

WARNING: The V&V Secure Code Review Validation Process has encountered blocking issues, current scan results should not be relied upon.

4.2 Residual High Findings ([#] Total)

Based on the information provided by the developer, it does not appear that vulnerabilities identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were High in severity were left unmitigated.

Or,

The vulnerabilities below were identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were High in severity were left unmitigated and are still being reported by HPE Fortify SCA. It is estimated that it will take approximately [xx] hours to address the following issues.

CWE-ID	CWE-Title	Number of Instances	Notes

Or,

WARNING: The V&V Secure Code Review Validation Process has encountered blocking issues, current scan results should not be relied upon.

4.3 Residual Medium Findings ([#] Total)

Based on the information provided by the developer, it does not appear that vulnerabilities identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were Medium in severity were left unmitigated.

Or,

The vulnerabilities below were identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were Medium in severity were left unmitigated and are still being reported by HPE Fortify SCA. It is estimated that it will take approximately [xx] hours to address the following issues.

CWE-ID	CWE-Title	Number of Instances	Notes

Or,

WARNING: The V&V Secure Code Review Validation Process has encountered blocking issues, current scan results should not be relied upon.

4.4 Residual Low Findings ([#] Total)

Based on the information provided by the developer, it does not appear that vulnerabilities identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were Low in severity were left unmitigated.

Or,

The vulnerabilities below were identified by HPE Fortify SCA that were Low in severity were left unmitigated and are still being reported by HPE Fortify SCA. It is estimated that it will take approximately [xx] hours to address the following issues.

CWE-ID	CWE-Title	Number of Instances	Notes

Or,

WARNING: The V&V Secure Code Review Validation Process has encountered blocking issues, current scan results should not be relied upon.

4.5 Unresolved Scan Issue Findings ([#] Total)

Based on the information provided, it does not appear that there were issues when the scan of the source code was conducted.

Or,

Description of Concern		
There are issues having to do with how the scan was conducted by the developer that were not able to be resolved during the course of the review. These issues may have impacted the ability of HPE Fortify SCA to identify Critical, High, Medium, or Low in severity findings. Descriptions of unresolved scan issues, and recommendations for each, are below. It is estimated that it will take approximately [xx] hours to address the following issues.		
Details		
<i>Issue</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
1. Old version of Fortify used to conduct scan	Version [##.##] of Fortify was used to conduct the scans. Version 16.20 of Fortify has been available since 12/19/2016 and should be used to conduct the scan.	Download, install, and use the most recent version of Fortify for all scans. Always check if newer versions of Fortify and the Fortify rulepacks are available prior to conducting a scan.
2. Old versions of Fortify Rulepacks used to conduct scan	Version [#####.#.#####] of the Rulepacks was used to conduct the scan, however Version 2016.4.0.0007 of the Rulepacks is available.	Upgrade Fortify to the latest version and use the most up-to-date rulepacks to run the scan. See the following note for more information on the latest rulepacks: https://wiki.mobilehealth.va.gov/display/OISSWA/2016/12/19/Fortify+Rulepacks+Version+201

6.4+Released		
3. Errors During Scan	Fortify reported errors during the scan that may affect the reported results. [Include listing of errors here or in an appendix]	Since errors reported during the scan may affect the results of the scan, the code must be rescanned without errors and resubmitted for review. [Include appropriate text for resolving the errors as appropriate]

4.6 Additional Findings ([#] Total)

There were no additional findings that were identified during the course of the validation.

Or,

CWE-ID	Residual Vulnerability Severity	CWE Title
4.6.1 <i>CWE-[id] ([#] Instances)</i>	High	[title]
Description of Concern		
There are concerns related to [title] (CWE-[id]). Individual instances that were found during the secure code review are below. A code example, description of potential impact, and recommendations follow. [INCLUDE THIS HERE IF NO PRIOR CORRESPONDING SECTION It is estimated that it will take approximately [xx] hours to address the following issues.]		
Location		
Directory	File	Line

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Code Example
<p>A code example from a residual vulnerability is below. In the example, [provide a code snippet and a brief description].</p> <pre>... string strPassPhrase = "[redacted]"; ...</pre>
Impact
[Provide description of impact]
Remediation
[Provide remediation advice]

5 Secure Code Review Validation Report Conclusion

Designing secure applications is every VA application developer's responsibility. Application-level vulnerabilities generally manifest themselves as one of two types: **design flaws** introduced by weaknesses during the requirements, design, or architecture phase; or **implementation bugs** introduced by weaknesses during the actual coding of the application.

HPE Fortify SCA should be used according to the VA Secure Code Review SOP to minimize design flaws during application implementation. HPE Fortify SCA supports a wide range of programming languages and build environments. The VA-licensed HPE Fortify SCA can also be used as a standalone tool by VA developers, or integrated into for example Continuous Integration (CI) build environments.

The VA Software Assurance Program Office uses the same static analysis tool (HPE Fortify SCA) as VA application developers during the secure code review validation process to ensure consistency and completeness of analysis.

Note that remediation estimates provided in this report are provided to assist with planning remediation work, if or as might be appropriate. Note that some bugs are harder to fix than others. Modifying a single line of code in a self-contained method for example is easier than modifying the result of a sequence of calls. Systems development program and project-specific considerations should also be taken into account when planning remediation work. [Read more...](#)

5.1 Resources that you may find helpful

The following resources may be helpful to readers of this report:

[VA Software Assurance Support Site](#)

This site provides VA Software Assurance Program Office resources to assist VA application developers with performing secure code reviews and secure design reviews during development and also during Assessment and Authorization (A&A) and continuous monitoring.

[VA Secure Code Review Standard Operating Procedures \(SOP\)](#)

This document provides establishes policies and procedures for performing secure code review (static analysis) of custom-developed applications at the VA.

Fortify product documentation

This documentation is included as part of Fortify software distribution. It includes system requirements documentation and user guides.

[OWASP Top Ten](#)

This site provides application security industry insight into common web application security flaws that is compiled by the OWASP Foundation.

CWE/SANS Top 25

This site provides application security industry insight into common application security flaws that is compiled by MITRE and SANS.